

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19

EUR-25 DRC-01 /153 W

----- 107078

R 300219Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 526

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: WORKER TEAMS PGTO PRC "SUPERSTRUCTURE"

SUMMARY. HUNAN HAS ORDERED WORKERS TEAMS INTO THE CULTURAL AND HEALTH FIELDS. THIS LATEST MOVE TO EXPAND THE WORKERS' ROLE MAY BE ECHOED IN OTHER PRC PROVINCES. END SUMMARY.

1. HUNAN HAS CALLED FOR TEAMS OF WORKERS "TO ENTER AND BE STATIONED" IN "ALL CULTURE, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH UNITS" (APRIL 26 BROADCAST). THE EXHORTATION CAME DURING A RECENT OATH TAKING RALLY IN CHANGSHA, HUNAN'S CAPITAL, THAT WAS ADDRESSED BY PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS AND PERSONNEL OF THE HUMAN "LEADERSHIP GROUP FOR WORKERS MAO TSE-TUNG THOUGHT PROPAGANDA TEAMS."

2. HUNAN'S MOVE MARKS AN EXPANSION OF WORKER INVOLVEMENT IN THE "SUPERSTRUCTURE" (THAT PORTION OF THE ECONOMY NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED

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IN PRODUCTION). FORMERLY THE TEAMS HAD WORKED LARGELY

IN SCHOOLS. THIS EXPANDED ROLE COMES AT A TIME WHEN WORKERS ARE ALREADY LEADING POLITICAL EFFORTS TO TOPPLE LEADERS IN SEVERAL PROVINCES (HONG KONG 4433).

3. HUNAN SANCITIFIES ITS MOVE BY REFERRING TO THE TEAMS AS ONE OF THE "NEW BORN THINGS" OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION WHICH HAVE GROWN UNDER MAO'S "PERSONAL CONCERN AND SUPPORT." IN AN APRIL 24 BROADCAST, LIAONING SIMILARLY DESCRIBES ITS WORKERS TEAMS AS SACRED "NEW BORN THINGS", SUGGESTING THAT BOTH LIAONING AND HUNAN MAY BE RESPONDING TO A CENTRAL DIRECTIVE. BUT WHILE LIAONING LAVISHES ATTENTION ON THE WORKERS TEAMS, IT HAS NOT THUS FAR ECHOED HUNAN'S CALL FOR WORKER INVOLVEMENT IN FIELDS BESIDES EDUCATION.

4. COMMENT. HUNAN'S CALL TO AUGMENT THE ROLE OF THE WORKERS TEAMS MAY WELL BE FOLLOWED ELSEWHERE. UNDER POLITBURO MEMBER HUA KUO-FENG, MAO'S HOME PROVINCE OF HUNAN HAS RECENTLY LED THE WAY TO OTHER NATION -WIDE DEVELOPMENTS (1973 WR 47). GREATER WORKER INVOLVEMENT IN CULTURE AND HEALTH SEEMS IN RESPONSE TO PROBLEMS ALREADY EXPOSED IN THESE TWO AREAS. IN HUNAN, SEVERAL PLAYS HAVE BEEN ATTACKED (HONG KONG 3919), AND DISCRIMINATORY HEALTH PRACTICES HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED (ACCORDING TO A MARCH 24 CHANGSHA LETTER).
CROSS

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